CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An expression vector comprising, in the following order, a promoter sequence, a first coding sequence, a polyadenylation site, and a second coding sequence, wherein no promoter sequence occurs between the internal polyadenylation site and the second coding sequence.

2. The expression vector of claim 1, wherein the second coding sequence encodes a selectable marker.

3. The expression vector of claim 2, wherein the selectable marker is dihydrofolate reductase.

4. The expression vector of claim 1 wherein the internal polyadenylation site is selected from the group consisting of SV40 late polyadenylation site (SEQ ID NO:1), SV40 early polyadenylation site (SEQ ID NO:3), and a mutant SV40 late polyadenylation site consisting essentially of nucleotides 80 through 222 of SEQ ID NO:1.

5. The expression vector of claim 2 wherein the internal polyadenylation site is selected from the group consisting of SV40 late polyadenylation site (SEQ ID NO:1), SV40 early polyadenylation site (SEQ ID NO:3), and a mutant SV40 late polyadenylation site consisting essentially of nucleotides 80 through 222 of SEQ ID NO:1.

6. The expression vector of claim 3 wherein the internal polyadenylation site is selected from the group consisting of SV40 late polyadenylation site (SEQ ID NO:1), SV40 early polyadenylation site (SEQ ID NO:3), and a mutant SV40 late polyadenylation site consisting essentially of nucleotides 80 through 222 of SEQ ID NO:1.

7. The expression vector of claim 1 wherein an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) is inserted between the DNA encoding the internal polyadenylation site and the DNA encoding the selectable marker such that the IRES is operably linked to the selectable marker.

8. The expression vector of claim 2 wherein an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) is inserted between the DNA encoding the internal polyadenylation site and the DNA

encoding the selectable marker such that the IRES is operably linked to the selectable marker.

9. The expression vector of claim 3 wherein an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) is inserted between the DNA encoding the internal polyadenylation site and the DNA encoding the selectable marker such that the IRES is operably linked to the selectable marker.

10. The expression vector of claim 4 wherein an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) is inserted between the DNA encoding the internal polyadenylation site and the DNA encoding the selectable marker such that the IRES is operably linked to the selectable marker.

11. The expression vector of claim 5 wherein an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) is inserted between the DNA encoding the internal polyadenylation site and the DNA encoding the selectable marker such that the IRES is operably linked to the selectable marker.

12. The expression vector of claim 6 wherein an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) is inserted between the DNA encoding the internal polyadenylation site and the DNA encoding the selectable marker such that the IRES is operably linked to the selectable marker.

13. A stable pools of cells transfected with an expression vector according to claim 7.

14. A stable pools of cells transfected with an expression vector according to claim 8.

15. A stable pools of cells transfected with an expression vector according to claim 9.

16. A stable pools of cells transfected with an expression vector according to claim 10.

17. A stable pools of cells transfected with an expression vector according to claim 11.

18. A stable pools of cells transfected with an expression vector according to claim 12.

19. A cell line cloned from the pool of claim 13.

20. A cell line cloned from the pool of claim 14.

21. A cell line cloned from the pool of claim 15.

22. A cell line cloned from the pool of claim 16.

23. A cell line cloned from the pool of claim 17.

24. A cell line cloned from the pool of claim 18.

25. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a stable pool of cells according to claim 13 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

26. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a stable pool of cells according to claim 14 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

27. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a stable pool of cells according to claim 15 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

28. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a stable pool of cells according to claim 16 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

29. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a stable pool of cells according to claim 17 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

30. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a stable pool of cells according to claim 18 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

31. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a cell line according to claim 19 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

32. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a cell line according to claim 20 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

33. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a cell line according to claim 21 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

34. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a cell line according to claim 22 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

35. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a cell line according to claim 23 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

36. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a cell line according to claim 24 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

37. The expression vector of claim 1, which further comprises a second polyadenylation site following the second coding sequence and operably linked thereto.

38. An expression vector comprising, in the following order, a promoter sequence, a first coding sequence, a polyadenylation site consisting essentially of nucleotides 80 through 222 of SEQ ID NO:1, and a second coding sequence, wherein no promoter sequence occurs between the internal polyadenylation site and the second coding sequence.

39. A stable pool of mammalian cells transfected with an expression vector according to claim 38.

40. A cell line cloned from the pool of claim 39.

41. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a stable pool of cells according to claim 39 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

42. A method for obtaining a recombinant protein, comprising culturing a cell line according to claim 40 under conditions promoting expression of the protein, and recovering the protein.

43. A mammalian host cell containing an expression vector according to claim 7.

44. A mammalian host cell containing an expression vector according to claim 8.

45. A mammalian host cell containing an expression vector according to claim 9.

46. A mammalian host cell containing an expression vector according to claim 10.

47. A mammalian host cell containing an expression vector according to claim 11.

48. A mammalian host cell containing an expression vector according to claim 36.

49. The expression vector of claim 38, which further comprises a second polyadenylation site following the second coding sequence and operably linked thereto.